GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3096
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2008
RUNNING OF FREIGHT TRAINS WITH ENHANCED LOADING
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have fully completed the first phase of running freight trains with enhanced loading;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the cost and earnings from the pilot projects of enhanced loading which were started in the year 2005;

(d) whether the Railways` decision to go further in higher axle load regime will attract heavier investment in the upgradation of track structure as well as in procuring rolling stock;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any unit cost comparable with other modes of transport been done; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(DR. R. VELU)

(a)&(b) The running of freight trains with enhanced loading is a continuous exercise,for which routes have been cleared in various phases taking into account the track structure and other safety and operational parameters.

(c) The costs and earnings in a transportation organization like the Railways are attributable to many factors. It is therefore very difficult to indicate separately the net effect on costs and earnings only from one of the measures of enhanced load running.

(d)&(e) Investments for higher axle load running is again a continuing long term process and it is not possible to exactly quantify the same at this stage.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.